

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 01382 301510Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 NSCE-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IO-14 /067 W
-----088955 301513Z /53

O R 301442Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 929
NSC WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1382

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA, IBS, IPS; STATE FOR S/PRS AND PA (HODD-
ING CARTER); DEPT ALSO PASS NSC FOR DR BRZEZINSKI; WHITE
HOUSE FOR POWELL; CAIRO FOR ATHERTON

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L)
SUBJ: REMARKS TO PRESS OF ASSISTANT SECSTATE ATHERTON AFTER
MEETING WITH FONMIN DAYAN, MONDAY 30 JAN 78

1. Q: MR ATHERTON WHAT ARE YOU TAKING WITH YOU TO EGYPT?
2. A: WELL, AS YOU KNOW I AM GOING TO EGYPT THIS AFTERNOON
AND I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL, AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER VERY
KINDLY AGREED IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE HAVE ONE FINAL REVIEW
OF THE SITUATION, ONE FINAL REVIEW OF WHERE WE ARE BEFORE I
GO. I'M GOING TO CONTINUE THERE THE EFFORTS THAT WE'VE
BEEN ENGAGED IN SINCE MY MISSION BEGAN. IT'S EXPLORING AT THIS
STAGE IN AN INFORMAL WAY HOW IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO CARRY
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- ON THE WORK THAT WAS BEING DONE IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE
WITH RESPECT IN PARTICULAR TO COMPLETION OF WORK ON THE
DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.
3. Q: WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL
AND EGYPT, REGARDING THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES?
 4. A: I THINK I'LL BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO ANSWER THAT
QUESTION AFTER I'VE GONE TO CAIRO - MAYBE MR DAYAN WILL

ANSWER THIS QUESTION.

5. DAYAN ANSWER IN HEBREW - TRANSLATION: I WOULD LIKE TO THANK VERY MUCH MR ATHERTON FOR EVERYTHING HE HAS DONE HERE AND FOR THE SURVEY HE HAS MADE THIS MORNING ON HIS VISIT TO JORDAN. AS TO THE CHANCES FOR AGREEMENT ON THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WE EXPECT TO HEAR FROM HIM AFTER HE GOES TO EGYPT AND TALKS TO THE EGYPTIANS ABOUT THEIR POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. THEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO ASSESS THEIR CHANCES.

6. Q: IN HEBREW - TRANSLATION: CAN IT BE ASSUMED THAT THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL WHICH MR ATHERTON IS TAKING WITH HIM TO EGYPT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE EGYPTIANS AND WHAT GIVES US THIS FEELING?

7. A: WE NEED NOT ASSUME NOW, WE NEED ONLY WAIT. MR ATHERTON WASNT IN EGYPT NOR HAS HE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE EGYPTIANS SINCE HE CAME HERE. TODAY HE GOES THERE, SO INSTEAD OF ASSUMING WE HAD BETTER WAIT AND HEAR FROM HIM IN A DAY OR TWO ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN POSITION.

8. Q: IN HEBREW - TRANSLATION: WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS FOR JORDAN PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS?

9. A: IN HEBREW - TRANSLATION: YOU'D BETTER ASK MR ATHERTON THAT QUESTION IN ENGLISH.

10. Q: WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT JORDAN WILL JOIN THE NEGOTIATIONS?

11. A: I THINK IT'S REALLY PREMATURE TO TRY TO MAKE A JUDGMENT ABOUT THAT. I DID TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MY PRESENCE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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AMMAN FOR THE MEETING WITH OUR AMBASSADORS TO MAKE A COURTESY CALL ON KING HUSSEIN. WE DISCUSSED IN A GENERAL WAY THE SITUATION AND THE CURRENT STATE OF NEGOTIATING EFFORTS, AND AFTERWARDS KING HUSSEIN AUTHORIZED A STATEMENT SAYING THAT JORDAN FULLY SUPPORTED THESE EFFORTS; BUT AND QUITE CLEARLY, ONE HOPES THAT CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ARISE WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE BROADENED BUT I THINK IT'S PREMATURE RIGHT NOW TO TRY TO MAKE A JUDGMENT ON WHEN OR HOW THAT MIGHT HAPPEN.

12. Q: DO YOU THINK A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WOULD BRING JORDAN INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS?

13. A: I THINK ITS PREMATURE AT THIS POINT TO MAKE A JUDGMENT ON THAT, BEYOND SAYING THAT OBVIOUSLY ONE HOPES THAT THIS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

14. Q: UNFORTUNATELY YOU WERE UNABLE TO ASK KING HUSSEIN ABOUT THIS. WHAT IS HIS ATTITUDE?

15. A: I DONT THINK IT IS REALLY APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO DISCUSS WHAT THE ATTITUDE OF KING HUSSEIN IS, PERHAPS YOU CAN FIND SOMEONE TO ASK HIM THAT QUESTION IN AMMAN.

16. Q: THANK YOU VERY MUCH- HAVE A GOOD TRIP. LEWIS

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